The Mediating Role of eTwinning in Small School Communities

eTwinning Online Professional Development Workshop

📅 **21-23 April, 2021**

Programme [Draft]

Day 1 - Plenary

15:00 – 15:15	**Opening**
	eTwinning Central Support Service
15:15 – 15:45	**Introduction: eTwinning and Rural Schools: Challenges and Contributions**
	eTwinning Central Support Service
15:45 – 16:15	**Keynote 1: The Role of Community and Schools in Small Areas**
	Giuseppina Cannella

Coffee Break

16:45 – 17:30	**Keynote 2: Multilevel Classes**
	Malgorzata Żytko
17:30-18:00	**Networking activity**

eTwinning

Day 2 Keynote and Workshops* (Participants have to attend 2 slots at least)

15:00 – 15:30 Keynote 3: Empower the Learner Through the Power of Story

Kathleen McClaskey

15:30 – 16:45 Workshop SLOT 1 (5 in parallel)

WS1	WS9	WS6	WS7	WS8
Teachers / Schools Working with Mixed-Aged Classrooms	Bring Europe into your Rural School with eTwinning!	Motivating Students to Learn: Examples from History	Learning Communities	Use the UDL Lens to Empower the Learner to Become an Agent and Advocate of their Own Learning
Diego Armando	Katri Juusola	James A. Diskant, Steven Stegers	Salvador Páez	Kathleen McClaskey

Coffee Break

17:15 – 18:30 Workshop SLOT 2 (5 in parallel)

WS2	WS3	WS4	WS6	WS10
The Power of Non-Formal Learning in Formal Settings	Let's Create a Challenge Together: Multilevel Classes in Action	eTwinning School in the Rural Area	Motivating Students to Learn: Examples from History	Cittaslow Movement for a More Balanced Way of Life
Yolanda Jara	Edyta Borowicz-Czuchryta	Edyta Bieniek	James A. Diskant, Steven Stegers	Cittaslow

Day 3 – Keynote and Workshops

15:00 – 15:30	**Keynote 4: Building Learning Alliances: The Impact of Parental Involvement on Students' Learning**
	Elizabeth Gosme

15:30 – 16:45	**Workshop SLOT 3 (5 in parallel)**

WS1	WS2	WS4	WS5	WS7
Teachers / Schools Working with Mixed-Aged Classrooms	**The Power of Non-Formal Learning in Formal Settings**	**eTwinning School in the Rural Area**	**From Art to Science — STEAM Projects in School & University Collaboration**	**Learning Communities**
Diego Armando	Yolanda Jara	Edyta Bieniek	Tomasz Ordza	Salvador Páez

Coffee Break

17:15 – 18:30	**Plenary: Practices sharing**
	Presentations from Poland, Turkey and Slovenia
	Plenary: Closing
	eTwinning Central Support Service

KEYNOTE LIST

01. **Keynote 1: The Role of Community and Schools in Small Areas**

Expert: Giuseppina Cannella

02. **Keynote 2: Multilevel Classes**

Expert: Malgorzata Żytko

03. **Keynote 3: Empower the Learner Through the Power of Story**

Expert: Kathleen McClaskey

04. **Keynote 4: Building Learning Alliances: The Impact of Parental Involvement on Students' Learning**

Expert: Elizabeth Gosme

WORKSHOP LIST

01. **Teachers / Schools Working with Mixed-Aged Classrooms**

Speaker: Diego Armando

In this workshop you will see some activities done in CRA Alto Cidacos rural school (in a mixed-age class) and you will consider advantages and disadvantages in these areas. You will also participate and collaborate with other teachers to create activities for a variety of levels in the same class.

02. **The Power of Non-Formal Learning in Formal Settings**

Speaker: Yolanda Jara

During this workshop you will learn about how you can use your eTwinning project to engage students with some difficulties, focusing on non-formal learning. Cooperation between several subjects in secondary schools and the local environment can become a mind map for interaction, key competences and implementation of the school curriculum. You will learn good practices and tools to support your project.

03. **Let's Create a Challenge Together: Multilevel Classes in Action**

Speaker: Edyta Borowicz-Czuchryta

Most teachers who work in mixed classes of different ages do not feel prepared for it, do

not believe in their own abilities. They look for ready-made solutions and believe that they do not have the potential to create their own. The workshop is to make teachers aware that in the case of combined classes there are no ready-made materials that are entirely suitable for use in their school. The workshop is aimed at enhancing teachers' appreciation, helping them to believe in their own strength and to convince them that together we have sufficient potential to develop our own solutions for working in combined classes. During the classes, teachers will also identify developmental needs and what to focus on. Together, we will discover that working in combined classrooms can be different: in a traditional way (which has several decades of tradition) and in a more modern way. During the meeting, participants will discover various solutions. They will find out what the traditional model of working with combined classes is about. They will also learn about modern, less used solutions, such as: project, block teaching, and reverse teaching.

04. eTwinning School in the Rural Area

Speaker: Edyta Bieniek

In this workshop the expert will propose a process of implementing eTwinning into the small, rural school.

05. From Art to Science — STEAM Projects in School & University Collaboration. eTwinning Projects as a Source of Integration of Local Environment

Speaker: Tomasz Ordza

During the workshop you will learn about the eTwinning projects implemented at the Kazimierz Nowak Primary School in Dąbrówka, which focused on science subjects. Cooperation between partner schools, universities and the local environment can become a mind map for interaction, competence building and implementation of the school curriculum. You will learn good practices and tools to support your project not only in distance work.

06. Motivating Students to Learn: Examples from History

Speaker: James A. Diskant and Steven Stegers

Of all the challenges that are shared by educators across Europe at the moment, motivating students to learn, might be one of the most pressing ones. Every student is different, and therefore it is necessary to provide multiple means of engagement. During this interactive session, James Diskant and Steven Stegers will share some ways in which history educators from the EuroClio network have motivated their students to learn. They will share ideas to hook students' interest when introducing a new topic, share activating methods, give samples of challenging questions, and engage ways to assess the learning at the end. The samples will focus on key events and developments that are important throughout Europe, and make use of resources that are freely available on the Historiana portal.

07. Learning Communities

Speaker: Salvador Páez

During the workshop you will learn what learning communities are and how to work in them from the experience of CEIP ENCARNACIÓN RUIZ PORRAS (Marinaleda) SPAIN. Collaboration between all the agents involved in education contributes to improving the education of a community, especially in a small school of a rural area. Through this workshop you will learn about the possibilities offered by a learning community to teach and learn in a collaborative, inclusive and interdisciplinary way.

08. Use the UDL Lens to Empower the Learner to Become an Agent and Advocate of their Own Learning

Speaker: Kathleen McClaskey

As we try to educate all children to become independent and self-directed learners so they have choices in college, career, and life, our promise should be for each child to develop agency. But how can we as educators fulfill that promise to create learning environments where all children can share their story, develop agency and be advocates of their learning so that they are future ready? Participants will learn how to use the practical 3-Step "Empower the Learner" process by employing the research of Universal Design for Learning and the learning sciences to understand the value of knowing a learner's identity that includes who they are, how they learn and what they aspire to be as foundational for acquiring the lifelong skills of agency and self-advocacy.

09. Bring Europe into your Rural School with eTwinning!

Speaker: Katri Juusola

The workshop will explore possibilities eTwinning offers for small rural schools and focuses especially on teaching media literacy. Katri Juusola, Sodankylä, Tähtikunnan koulu, eTwinning ambassador.

10. Cittaslow Movement for a More Balanced Way of Life

Speaker: Cittaslow

Inspired by the slow food movement, Cittaslow is an organisation founded in Italy with goals like improving the quality of life in towns by slowing down its overall pace. Particular focus is on the city's use of spaces and the flow of life and traffic through them. The main goal of Cittaslow is to enlarge the philosophy of Slow Food to local communities and to government of towns, applying the concepts of eco-gastronomy at practice of everyday life. Cittaslow is currently present in 30 countries and territorial areas for a total of 277 cities, mostly smaller towns and communities.